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Department of Insurance schedules disaster preparedness seminars

FRANKFORT, Ky. - The Kentucky Department of Insurance will hold two free seminars in July designed to educate consumers on ways to protect their families and property from natural disasters.

"After the weather-related losses we have experienced in the past few years, we thought the topic of disaster preparedness was particularly important," said Janie A. Miller, Kentucky Insurance Commissioner. "With our partners, we will be able to provide information on ways to mitigate property damage and, hopefully, reduce the potential for deaths as a result of Kentucky storms."

The seminars will be held in Louisville on July 29 at the Clarion Conference Center off Hurstbourne Parkway and in Lexington on July 30 at the Four Points Sheraton off Newtown Pike. Both sessions are scheduled from 1-4 p.m. with exhibits to be open from noon to 5 p.m.

Partners in the event are the American Red Cross, Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH), Kentucky Emergency Management and the Kentucky Fire Marshal.

"We are pleased to be working with these organizations. Consumers will be able to learn so much from these experts in disaster preparedness," Miller said.

Topics to be covered will include general preparedness tips, how to develop a family disaster plan, what generally is covered by a homeowners policy, what to include on a home inventory, steps to take before severe weather to protect your property from damage, and actions to take during and after a disaster to keep family members safe.

Reservations are encouraged but not required. For more information or to register, e-mail DJ.Wasson@ky.gov or call 800-595-6053.

In addition to the seminars, consumers with insurance-related complaints or questions are encouraged to stop by either location to talk to a consumer complaint investigator.